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Division

## 02 Assault

### Australian and New Zealand Standard Offence Classification (ANZSOC)

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#### Description

Assault involves the direct and immediate infliction of force, injury or violence upon a person or people, or the direct and immediate threat of force, injury, or violence where there is an apprehension that the threat could be enacted. This may include use of body parts, weapons, heat, light, electrical force, odorous gases, or other methods.

Offences in this division do not have a sexual or acquisitive component; those offences are coded within 03 Sexual offences and 05 Robbery, blackmail, and extortion respectively. If the offence was not intended to cause harm, it should be coded to an offence within 04 Harm or endanger persons.

Subdivision

## 021 Serious assault

#### Description

This subdivision includes the intentional, direct, and immediate infliction of force, injury, or violence upon a person or people, either causing significant injury or in the context of aggravating factors.

Where choking and strangulation can't be disaggregated from other serious assaults, code to 0210.

### 0211 Choking and strangulation

This group is specifically for choking, strangulation, and suffocation offences.

#### Inclusions:

- Choking
- Strangulation
- Suffocation

#### Exclusions:

- Strangulation, choking, or suffocation leading to death – coded to the relevant group within 01 Homicide

### 0212 Other serious assault

A serious assault may include, but is not limited to, any of the following circumstances:

- Causing a significant injury (as defined below)
- Committed against a pregnant person
- Committed against a vulnerable victim as defined by the jurisdiction where the offence occurred
- Committed in company
- Involving more than one victim
- Part of a planned or organised criminal activity
- "Persistent family violence" as defined by the jurisdiction where the offence occurred
- Use of a weapon, including a vehicle
- Other aggravating circumstance specified by state, territory, or national criminal legislation

For the purposes of this group, significant injury includes, but is not limited to:

- Grievous bodily harm (including severe psychological harm where specified in jurisdictional legislation)
- Pregnancy loss, except where the loss is legally considered to be homicide
- Significant wounding

This group excludes where these acts are against police officers and other public officers for whom specific legislation applies.

**Inclusions:**

- Assaults causing significant injury or where an aggravating factor applies
- Attempt to cause grievous bodily harm
- Threats to seriously injure or kill that are face-to-face and where there is an apprehension that the threat could be enacted, and this threat causes fear and severe psychological harm
- Torture causing significant physical and/or psychological harm
- Other serious assaults not elsewhere classified

**Exclusions:**

- Assault where there was no serious injury or aggravating factors – coded to 0230 Common assault
- Assault, including serious assault, of a police officer or other prescribed officer – coded to 0221 Assault of a police officer or 0222 Assault of other prescribed officer
- Driving causing grievous bodily harm – coded to 0450 Driving causing serious injury
- Food or drink spiking – coded to 0491 Drug or poison a person
- Neglect or ill-treatment of a child or vulnerable person – coded to 0492 Neglect or ill-treatment of person under care
- Threats to kill or injure that are not face-to-face where there is no belief that the threat could be enacted – coded to 0442 Threatening behaviour

**Subdivision**

## 022 Assault of a prescribed officer

### Description

This subdivision includes assaults of police officers and other public officers for whom specific legislation applies if they are assaulted while undertaking their role. This may include emergency workers, prison officers, juvenile justice officers, judicial officers, border security officers, members of the defence force, and others. Definitions of prescribed officers will vary between jurisdictions.

Where police officers can't be disaggregated from other prescribed officers, code to 0220.

### 0221 Assault of a police officer

This group is for assaults on police officers while on duty or exercising the powers of a police officer.

**Inclusions:**

- Assault a police officer
- Threaten to kill or seriously assault a police officer where there is a reasonable belief that the threat could be enacted

**Exclusions**

- Assault a member of the defence force, border security officer, or other prescribed officer – coded to 0222 Assault of other prescribed officer
- Assault a private security guard – coded to 0212 Other serious assault or 0230 Common assault
- Assault an off-duty police officer – coded to 0212 Other serious assault or 0230 Common assault
- Resist arrest – coded to 1422 Resist or hinder a police officer or justice official

### 0222 Assault of other prescribed officer

This group is for assaults on prescribed officers (other than police) while the officer is on duty or exercising powers related to their role.

A prescribed officer is any public officer for whom specific legislation applies if they are assaulted while on duty. This may include emergency workers, prison officers, juvenile justice officers, judicial officers, border security officers, members of the defence force, and others. Definitions of prescribed officers will vary between jurisdictions.

**Inclusions:**

- Assault of a prescribed officer (other than police)
- Threaten to kill or seriously assault a prescribed officer (other than police) where there is a belief that the threat could be enacted

**Exclusions:**

- Assault a police officer – coded to 0221 Assault of a police officer
- Assault a private security guard – coded to 0212 Other serious assault or 0230 Common assault
- Assault a public officer who is not a prescribed officer within the jurisdiction where the offence occurred – coded to 0212 Other serious assault or 0230 Common assault
- Assault an off-duty prescribed officer – coded to the relevant group within 021 Serious assault or 0230 Common assault

## 023 Common assault

### 0230 Common assault

Common assault is an assault where there was no serious injury, and the offence did not involve any of the circumstances defined in 021 Serious assault or 022 Assault of a prescribed officer.

#### Inclusions:

- Assault where there was minor injury and no aggravating factors
- Assault where there was no injury and no aggravating factors

#### Exclusions:

- Assault a police officer, whether or not it causes injury – coded to 0221 Assault of a police officer
- Assault other prescribed officer, such as a justice official or prison officer – coded to 0222 Assault of other prescribed officer